THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The Government has given entry scale of pay of Rs. 4500-125-7000 per month of Pharmacists possessing qualification of Diploma in Pharmacy, in accordance with the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission. ACP scheme recommended by the Fifth Pay Commission deals with the problem of stagnation and hardship faced by the employees due to lack of adequate promotional avenues.

Condition of Dental Wing of RML Hospital

4851. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dental Wing of Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital is most filthy and neglected;

(b) whether it is a fact that Dental OPD does not function on Saturdays;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken to open Dental OPD on Saturdays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Wednesday and Saturdays are being observed as operation days by the Dental Department of Dr. RML Hospital. Operations are being performed by the concerned doctors in their respective rooms. However, dental emergency cases are attended to immediately by the doctors on duty.

At present there is no proposal to open dental OPD on Saturdays.

Misutilisation of funds under RCH Programme

4852. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to check the misutilisation of funds under Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that these funds have been directed for other purposes in many States;

(c) if so, the details of the same;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government have directed senior officers of his Ministry to check the misuse of funds by visiting villages; and

(e) the amount allocated to Andhra Pradesh under this scheme since 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Under the RCH Programme, guidelines have been issued to all States/UTs for utilisation of funds and they have been advised not to divert the funds for activities other than those they are meant. Senior officials from the Ministry visit the States periodically to monitor the usage of funds as well as to see the physical progress on the ground. They are also required to submit activity-wise periodic expenditure reports to the Government of India through which utilisation status is monitored. The States are required to get accounts audited on annual basis through Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) or CAG empanelled auditors and send the same to Government of India.

(b) Some cases of diversion of funds under RCH have come to notice.

(c) Details are available in the annexed Statement (*See* below).

(d) Department of Family Welfare has designated its nodal officers for States for overseeing the implementation of Reproductive and Child Health Programme including the financial monitoring. Nodal Officers visit their allocated State and districts from time to time to review and discuss the status of activities under the Programme.

(e) The amount allocated under RCH Programme including Pulse Polio Immunization (PPI) to the State of Andhra Pradesh under this Scheme from 1998-1999 in both cash and kind is indicated below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Cash	Kind	Total
1998-1999	4.64	23.65	28.29
1999-2000	18.54	22.80	41.34
2000-2001	13.86	24.88	38.74
2001-2002	20.25	25.56	45.81

Statement

Details of cases of financial irregularities and misuse of RCH funds

The Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme has been under implementation in all States of country since March 1998. Some cases of financial irregularities and misuse of RCH funds have come to the notice of Government. These cases and action taken thereupon are detailed as below:

(1) A complaint of irregularities in the purchase of medical equipment and drugs etc. under the RCH sub Project, Sangrur, Punjab was received in January, 2000 wherein allegation of non-observance of the proper procedures was made against the sub project authorities. The matter was referred to the State Government. The State Government cancelled the supply orders and no payments were released. It also started an inquiry into the matter. The said inquiry report has been received from the State Government in July 2001. As the report has not comprehensively dealt with all the allegations referred by Government of India, the State Government has been advised to look into all aspects of the matter and send a detailed report. The matter is reportedly under investigation by the State Vigilance Bureau. Bureau's report is still awaited.

(2) A case of alleged misuse of funds provided under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme and the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme in Rajasthan is under investigation by Central Bureau of Investigation.

(3) A shortage of cash aggregating Rs. 50,607/- was detected during audit of the RCH Programme during 1999-2000 in Bhiwani district of Haryana. Full recovery of the missing cash from the concerned persons has been reported by the State Government.

(4) As per the Audit Report for 2000-2001, a sum of Rs. 24 crores has been transferred from SCOVA's accounts to Government of Rajasthan without any justification/reason. Rajasthan Government has been asked to deposit the said amount to SCOVA's account.

(5) Action has been taken against five Non-Government Organizations for irregular/improper use of funds provided under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme.